

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims, including all prior versions, with the listing of claims below.

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ having, comprising:
  - [[ - ]] an electromagnetic relay ~~(4)~~;
  - [[ - ]] a switching device ~~(5)~~, ~~whose~~ having outputs (A1, A2) ~~are~~ arranged parallel to one contact ~~(4a)~~ of the electromagnetic relay ~~(4)~~; ~~and~~
  - [[ - ]] a control arrangement ~~(2)~~ which is connected to ~~the~~ a coil ~~(4b)~~ of the electromagnetic relay ~~(4)~~ and the switching device ~~(5)~~; and

~~characterized in that~~

\_\_\_\_\_ a voltage detection device (6) is arranged between the control arrangement (2) and the coil (4b) of the electromagnetic relay (4), said the voltage detection device (6)

  - [[ - ]] ~~instructing, in the event of~~ when a switch-on command ~~being is~~ is emitted by the control arrangement ~~(2)~~, a downstream drive unit ~~(7)~~ to emit a switching signal ~~(S1)~~ which short-circuits the switching device ~~(5)~~ on the output side,
  - [[ - ]] maintaining, when the switch-on command is ended, the switching signal ~~(S1)~~ until ~~the~~ a contact ~~(4a)~~ of the electromagnetic relay ~~(4)~~ is opened, and
  - [[ - ]] ~~instructing, in the event of~~ when there ~~being is~~ is no switch-on command, the drive unit ~~(7)~~ to emit a second switching signal ~~(S2)~~ which opens the switching device ~~(5)~~ on the output side.
  
2. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 1,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein

the voltage detection device ~~(6)~~ has a rectifier circuit ~~(13)~~ which is connected on the input side to the control arrangement ~~(2)~~ and the coil ~~(4b)~~ of the electromagnetic relay ~~(4)~~ and is connected on the output side to the drive unit ~~(7)~~ via a comparator ~~(13)~~.

3. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a voltage is continuously applied to one input ~~(15)~~ of the comparator ~~(13)~~.

4. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the drive unit ~~(7)~~ has two signal conversion elements ~~(16, 17)~~ driven in phase opposition ~~in such a way that~~ in each case one signal conversion element ~~(16, 17)~~ is active and one signal conversion element ~~(16, 17)~~ is inactive.

5. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outputs of the respectively inactive signal conversion element ~~(16, 17)~~ are short-circuited via the respectively active signal conversion element ~~(16, 17)~~.

6. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim ~~4 or 5,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the signal conversion elements ~~(16, 17)~~ are voltage transformers.

7. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in claim ~~4 or 5,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the signal conversion elements ~~(16, 17)~~ are photovoltaic generators.

8. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the switching device ~~(5)~~ has at least one MOS transistor.

9. (Currently amended) The electrical switching arrangement ~~(1)~~ as claimed in ~~one of the~~  
~~preceding claims,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein  
the switching device ~~(5)~~ operates bi-directionally.